

STATE OF INDIANA



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INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
302 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE E-306
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2764

<http://www.state.in.us/iurc/>
Office: (317) 232-2701
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December 29, 2004

Irene Flannery
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, N.W. - Suite # 200
Washington D.C. 20036

✓ Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Certification of Rural Indiana Carriers Pursuant to § 254(e)
and the FCC's Order in CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Flannery and Ms. Dortch:

In accordance with the Federal Communications Commission's May 23, 2001 Order¹ (the "RTF Order"), this letter is intended to communicate to you the names of those Indiana carriers that have been certified by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission ("IURC") to receive federal support for calendar year 2005.

In an IURC Order issued on August 22, 2001 in Cause Nos. 42067/40785, the IURC prescribed forms to be completed and procedures to be followed by rural carriers seeking IURC certification. Based upon completed applications that have been received this year, the IURC issued an Order on August 24, 2004 in Cause No. 42067 identifying Indiana carriers that have satisfied the certification criteria established by the IURC's August 22, 2001 Order and the June 18, 2003 Docket Entry. On December 22, 2004, the IURC issued an Order in 42067 certifying Centennial Cellular Tri-State Operating Partnership, Centennial Randolph Cellular LLC, Elkhart Metronet, Inc., Mega Comm, LLC, Michiana Metronet, Inc., and South Bend Metronet, Inc. (collectively, "Centennial") as having satisfied the certification criteria established by the IURC's August 22, 2001 Order and the June 18, 2003 Docket Entry.


¹ FCC's Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, dated May 23, 2001.

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Based on the IURC's December 22, 2004 Order, and on behalf of the IURC, I now certify to the FCC and USAC that in addition to the entities previously certified, Centennial will be using federal support (which includes high cost loop support, local switching support, high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high cost model support, and hold harmless support) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254 (e) of the Communications Act.

If you require further assistance, please call me at (317) 232-2716.

Sincerely,


Nancy E. Manley
Secretary to the Commission

Encl: IURC Order in Cause No. 42067, dated December 22, 2004.

cc: All certified Indiana carriers
Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S)
CERTIFICATION OF RURAL CARRIERS')
ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE FEDERAL HIGH-)
COST UNIVERSAL SUPPORT, PURSUANT TO)
THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996,)
THE FCC'S MAY 23, 2001 ORDER, AND OTHER)
RELATED FCC ORDERS, AND IN PARTICULAR,)
THE APPLICATION OF CENTENNIAL)
CELLULAR TRI-STATE OPERATING)
PARTNERSHIP; CENTENNIAL RANDOLPH)
CELLULAR LLC; ELKHART METRONET, INC.;)
MEGA COMM LLC; MICHIANA METRONET,)
INC.; AND SOUTH BEND METRONET, INC. SO)
CERTIFIED)

CAUSE NO. 42067-HLS 46

APPROVED: DEC 22 2004

BY THE COMMISSION:

David E. Ziegner, Commissioner

Lorraine Hitz-Bradley, Administrative Law Judge

On May 23, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission issued an Order¹ ("the FCC's RTF Order") assigning to state commissions the responsibility of certifying whether rural carriers are using federal high-cost support in a manner consistent with the requirements of Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Pursuant to Section 254(e), carriers must use universal service support "only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended."

In order to carry out the FCC's directive, this Commission issued a consolidated order in this Cause and Cause No. 40785 prescribing forms to be filled out and procedures to be followed by those rural carriers seeking certification. Upon reviewing the applications submitted by rural carriers seeking certification, the Commission issued orders in this Cause on September 26, 2001 and September 11, 2002 certifying the eligibility of Indiana rural carriers to receive federal high-cost support. In a June 18, 2003 docket entry issued in this Cause and Cause No. 40785, the Commission amended the form to be filled out by carriers seeking certification.

On December 15, 2004, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission issued an Order in Cause No. 41052-ETC 46 approving the request by Centennial Cellular Tri-State Operating Partnership, Centennial Randolph Cellular LLC, Elkhart Metronet, Inc., Mega Comm, LLC, Michiana Metronet, Inc., and South Bend Metronet, Inc. (collectively, "Centennial") to be designated Eligible Telecommunications Carriers. Centennial, a wireless carrier, was authorized to serve as an ETC in certain selected study areas of Indiana rural telephone companies. In

¹ In the Matter of Federal-State Board on Universal Service and the MAG Plan, Fourteenth Report and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 00-256.

Cause No. 41052-ETC-46, the Commission took administrative notice of Centennial's high-cost certification filings in Cause No. 42067-HLS-46, that are required by the Commission before the Commission will certify a carrier as being eligible to receive federal high-cost loop support.

Upon reviewing the completed application, the Commission finds that Centennial has demonstrated the requisite compliance with the requirements of Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as interpreted by the FCC's RTF Order and this Commission's August 22, 2001 Order. More specifically, based on the completed applications, we find that Centennial will be using federal high-cost support (which include high-cost loop support, local switching support, high-cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high-cost model support, and hold-harmless support) only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

In accordance with the FCC's RTF Order, we direct the Commission's Secretary to inform the Universal Services Administrative Company ("USAC") and the FCC that this Commission has certified that Centennial has met the requirements of Section 254(e) and the FCC's RTF Order, and is eligible to begin receiving high-cost support as of December 15, 2004.

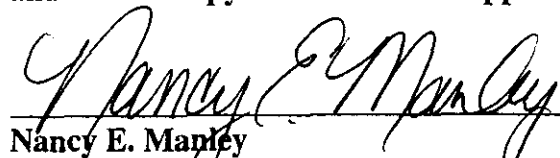
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION that:

1. Centennial shall be, and hereby is, certified by this Commission as having satisfied the requirements of Section 254(e) and the FCC's RTF Order, and is eligible to begin receiving high-cost support as of December 15, 2004.
2. The Commission's Secretary shall inform the FCC and USAC by December 30, 2004 that Centennial has been so certified.
3. This Order shall be effective on and after the date of its approval.

McCARTY, LANDIS, RIPLEY ND ZIEGNER CONCUR; HADLEY ABSENT:
APPROVED:

DEC 22 2004

**I hereby certify that the above is a true
and correct copy of the Order as approved.**



Nancy E. Manley
Secretary to the Commission